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61st Congress, 2d Session | SENATE | Document No. 657

# MARTIN N. JOHNSON

(Late a Senator from North Dakota)

## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

Sixty-first Congress
Second Session

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
April 2, 1910

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 24, 1910

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# DEATH OF HON. MARTIN N. JOHNSON

## PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE

MONDAY, *December 6, 1909.*

The Chaplain, Rev. Ulysses G. B. Pierce, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto Thee, we thank Thee for Thy providence which thus brings together from the North and the South and from the East and the West Thy servants to accomplish Thy purposes.

We remember with tender and reverent heart him whom Thou hast called from our midst to Thy higher service, and humbly yield ourselves to the mystery of Thy holy will, which can do us no harm.

As thus we commit ourselves to the new task, we pray, our Father, that we may evermore be guided by Thy spirit, and that we may be upheld by the right hand of Thy power, that Thy kingdom may come and that Thy holy will may be done by us, now and forever more. Amen.

Mr. MCCUMBER. Mr. President, it is my sorrowful duty to announce to the Senate the death of Senator JOHNSON, of North

Dakota, who died in the city of Fargo on the 21st day of October of this year.

At some future date convenient to the Senate I shall ask that an hour be set aside that proper tribute may be paid to his memory.

Mr. President, I ask that the resolutions which I send to the desk may be adopted.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Secretary will read the resolutions submitted by the Senator from North Dakota.

The resolutions (S. Res. 82) were read and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. MARTIN NELSON JOHNSON, late a Senator from the State of North Dakota.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

Mr. MCCUMBER. Mr. President, as a further tribute of respect to the memory of Senator JOHNSON, I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, December 7, 1909, at 12 o'clock meridian.

TUESDAY, *March 1, 1910.*

Mr. MCCUMBER. Mr. President, at this time I wish to ask unanimous consent that Saturday, the 2d day of April next, immediately after the conclusion of the morning business, may be set aside in order that the Senate may pay just tribute to the memory of Hon. MARTIN N. JOHNSON, late Senator from the State of North Dakota.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from North Dakota? The Chair hears none, and that order is made.

SATURDAY, *April 2, 1910.*

The Chaplain, Rev. Ulysses G. B. Pierce, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who hast loved us with an everlasting love and hast called us to this day of tender and reverent memory; hear us, we pray Thee, as we lift to Thee our prayer of grateful adoration.

We remember before Thee Thy servants who have labored by our side, and who, having borne the burden and the heat of the day, have now gone to their reward. We thank Thee, our Father, for these, who were leaders of the people, by their counsels and by their wisdom meet to be rulers. Though their bodies are buried in peace, yet shall not their names be forgotten. We rejoice that the memorial of virtue is immortal; seeing that when it is present men take example of it, and when it is gone they earnestly desire it. With their strength we are strong, and their faithfulness makes us faithful. Unite us, we pray Thee, with the faithful and true, there and here, and join our hearts with theirs in one fellowship of the Spirit, one beauty of holiness, and one repose on Thee. Amen.

Mr. MCCUMBER. Mr. President, I offer the resolutions I send to the desk and ask for their adoption.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The resolutions will be read by the Secretary.

The resolutions (S. Res. 206) were read as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. MARTIN N. JOHNSON, late a Senator from the State of North Dakota.

*Resolved*, That as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator, the business of the Senate be now suspended to enable his associates to pay proper tribute to his high character and distinguished public services.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased Senator.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

### ADDRESS OF MR. PURCELL, OF NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. PRESIDENT: On March 1 last the Senate, by unanimous consent, set apart to-day to pay its final tribute of respect to one of its members, Hon. MARTIN NELSON JOHNSON, United States Senator from North Dakota, who died October 21, 1909, at Fargo, N. Dak.

My appearance here as a Senator from North Dakota is due primarily to the death of Senator JOHNSON, with whom I had a personal acquaintance extending over a period of more than twenty years.

Therefore, in accordance with a time-honored custom of this body and at the request of the family, it becomes my duty to speak briefly in commemoration of his life and character.

MARTIN NELSON JOHNSON was born March 3, 1850, in Racine County, Wis., and during that same year his parents moved to the State of Iowa. He was graduated from the Iowa State University in 1873, and subsequently taught for two years in the California Military Academy, at Oakland, Cal.

He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1876, having been elected a member of the Iowa legislature from Winneshiek County during the previous year.

He was made presidential elector for the State of Iowa in 1876, and helped to elect President Hayes. He was elected a state senator in 1877, but in 1882 removed to the Territory of Dakota, where he located in Nelson County and took up a homestead under the land laws of the United States, adjoin-

ing what is now the town of Petersburg. He served four years as district attorney of Nelson County, Dak. T., from 1886, and in June, 1889, was elected a member of the constitutional convention of the State of North Dakota.

In this body he took a very prominent part in framing the constitution of the new State. He was chairman of the committee on corporations other than municipal, which, next to the judiciary committee, was the most important committee of all, and he served on several other committees.

In 1889 he was defeated for United States Senator, but the following year was elected a Member of the House of Representatives, serving as a Member in the Fifty-second, Fifty-third, Fifty-fourth, and Fifty-fifth Congresses, during the last two of which he was a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

In 1898 he voluntarily retired from the House of Representatives to become a candidate for United States Senator, but was again defeated in the legislature. For the next eight years he took no part in politics, giving his time to farming and the grain trade and living on the homestead which he entered in 1882.

A primary-election law having been passed in North Dakota in 1907, he again became a candidate for the United States Senate. In the first of the two primary elections held that year he was one of two who received the largest number of votes, and at the second primary received the highest number, thereby becoming the candidate of the Republican party for United States Senator. On January 20, 1909, he was elected by the legislature of North Dakota for a term of six years, receiving every Republican vote in both houses.

Senator JOHNSON was married on June 16, 1879, to Miss Stella White, who survives him. Four children were born to them—three girls and one boy—all of whom are now married, with the exception of one daughter.

I became acquainted with the deceased on July 4, 1889, at Bismarck, Dak. T., where the members elected to the constitutional convention met to organize and frame a constitution for the new State of North Dakota. In that convention I served with Senator JOHNSON on the committee on corporations other than municipal, and we became very well acquainted. We often differed on political matters, but I can truthfully say that during our long acquaintance we cherished for each other the highest personal regard.

About the middle of October last, in apparent good health, he submitted to an operation on his nose for the purpose of removing a minor difficulty. Neither he nor any member of his family knew that he was afflicted with any serious disease. There was nothing in his appearance, bearing, or manner to indicate that he was in other than the best of health. After the operation that insidious malady, Bright's disease, showed itself in an acute form, and further showed that it had for some time been doing its deadly work. All that human power could do to ward off the fatal end was done, but without avail, and on October 21, 1909, about 7 o'clock in the evening, he passed to his reward.

MARTIN N. JOHNSON was a descendant of Scandinavian parentage, that race which to-day predominates in the States of Minnesota and North Dakota, and which has settled in large numbers in other Northwestern States. Sir, to that race, together with the sturdy German and the ever-plodding Bohemian, is due much of the credit for the wonderful development of the resources of the Northwestern States. These people, together with energetic young Americans, were the pioneers in this section, and by their labor, industry, and thrift have converted a region, a large part of which was at one time styled the Great American Desert, into one of the garden spots of our country.

In this development the deceased was always a prominent factor. He possessed a passionate fondness for farm life, was a practical agriculturist, and yet at the same time kept up the practice of his chosen profession. He was a thorough student, and his well-trained mind enabled him to grasp quickly and clearly elucidate the underlying principles of any subject to which he gave his attention. To his acquaintances he was uniformly affable and courteous. So tender of heart was he that to injure the feelings of anyone gave him the greatest pain. He was so solicitous of the welfare of others that he often deprived himself of necessary conveniences.

As a public speaker he was the possessor of a style of delivery and expression which was both clear and convincing. His judgment was sound, and he was able to view a situation with a breadth of vision that is given to but few.

He loved his country with genuine patriotism, served it unselfishly, was ever attentive to his duties, and no one was ever more considerate of the wishes and well-being of his constituents. He met every duty fearlessly and ever followed where conscience led. It was because of these noble traits that he was so implicitly trusted and so highly esteemed and honored by his constituents. He loved the common people, and his outstretched hand was extended to the laborer in overalls as graciously as it was to the capitalist in broadcloth. He was a constant and devoted member of the Methodist Church, and was entirely devoid of hypocrisy and cant. He led an ideal Chirstian life, reverencing always the things that are pure and noble and good; ever exemplary in habits, conduct, and deportment. He has left to the grief-stricken wife and bereaved children a heritage better than wealth and to the world a splendid example of a life well lived. He was a kind and loving husband and father, ever mindful of the happiness of his loving wife and children. Their comfort was his first and last thought.

As I stood with many hundreds of others beside his open grave in the little cemetery near the farm whereon he had spent the last twenty-seven years of an eventful life and saw the sorrowful faces and tear-bedimmed eyes of his many friends, I thought, as many others have thought on similar occasions, that "surely this man has not lived in vain." His life was beautiful in its simplicity; his faith in the mercy of Almighty God sublime.

### Address of Mr. Carter, of Montana

Mr. President: Hon. Martin N. Johnson, late a Senator from the State of North Dakota, told the story of his life in simple and unaffected style in the Congressional Directory. He was born in Wisconsin in 1850, graduated from the Iowa State University in 1873, taught school for a time in California, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1876, served one term in each branch of the Iowa legislature, was a presidential elector in 1876, and from his settlement in North Dakota, in 1882, until the time of his death was engaged in farming operations. His services as a member of the constitutional convention of his adopted State and in the National House of Representatives, and even his period of service in the Senate, were events which merely kept him apart for a time from his chosen occupation. He was a farmer of superior intelligence; and while he was known to be a lawyer of ability and a skillful legislator, he always regarded the farm as his home and farming as his life's work. Digressions into politics and the holding of public office he did not permit to absorb nor to deflect his life.

As a good citizen, deeply impressed with the obligations of citizenship, he attended public meetings, conventions, and gatherings of all sorts having to do with the betterment of the social and political life of which he was a part. Like most of the members of the sturdy race from which he sprung, our lamented colleague was of a conservative disposition. He was little affected by temporary excitement or the passions of the passing hour; he directed the forces of his keen, calculating mind to the study of every question, so that when he reached a conclusion it was safe to assume that his position was based upon what he deemed correct fundamental principles.

The political career of our deceased colleague furnishes a strong additional illustration of the unlimited possibilities open to every worthy young man in this free country of ours. Without influential connections, MARTIN N. JOHNSON forged his way from obscurity to prominence and from poverty to affluence by employing only such means as are at the disposal of every young man possessed of good health, fair intelligence, and solid integrity. The lesson will be of but little avail to those who pretend to believe that there is a royal road to eminence. That dream must always lead to an awakening in the midst of failure and disappointment. JOHNSON was, to begin with, an honest, square man; he was of the dependable sort. To use a phrase coined by one of his neighbors, "He would stand out in a storm without hitching." He was reliable because he was a man of conviction, and not given to taking positions in a frivolous way, but only as the result of sober thought.

As a member of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives he ranked high as a student of economic questions and a fearless advocate of any cause he thought proper to espouse. Some ten years later he appeared in the Senate, and in this forum very soon became known as a staunch, reliable, clear-headed man, possessed of deep and abiding convictions. In all relations he met life's duties and difficulties fearlessly, and bequeathed to his family and his friends the imperishable heritage of an untarnished name. The perpetuity of our institutions and the well-being of our great country will always be assured as long as avenues to the highest positions in the councils of state are open to men of the sterling character of him whose death we note in sorrow to-day.

### Address of Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota

Mr. President: It is not so much because I was an associate as a Senator in this body that I feel impelled to pay a brief tribute to his memory as because of the fact that in a certain sense and to a large extent Senator Johnson and myself have been associated as pioneers in the work of building up and developing the great Northwest. I recall the fact that when I was a schoolboy years ago in Wisconsin what now constitutes the great States of Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota was marked on the map as "the Great American Desert." That country is no longer a desert; it has been settled and is occupied by a class of energetic, industrious, and progressive pioneers, who have carved and created in that region four great States of the Union. Senator Johnson was born in Wisconsin in 1850, the same year I came to the State from Illinois. Shortly after his birth he moved with his family to northeastern Iowa.

My first recollection of Senator Johnson was in the middle fifties—I think in 1856 or 1857. His father was a Methodist minister, and for one or two years—two years, I think—was stationed as a minister in charge of a congregation in the little village near where I lived. Senator Johnson was then a 6 or 7 year old boy, and I about seven years his senior. I saw him several times with his parents at church, and recall him as a sober, stout, and sedate lad, who seemed even then to take a serious view of life. He left Wisconsin with his father in 1857 and went back to Iowa, their former home, and I did not meet him again until I met him in North Dakota in the early eighties, when he had become one of the pioneers of that State.

I came into the northern middle part of Minnesota in 1871, when it was a sparsely settled and frontier country. Senator JOHNSON came into North Dakota somewhere about 1881 or 1882. North Dakota was then a virgin prairie, with but few settlers. He was one of the leading pioneers of that State, one of the men who helped to build it up and make it one of the great Commonwealths in the Mississippi Valley. I met him occasionally in those early years. As pioneers of adjoining States, there was a bond of sympathy and fellow-feeling between us. In Iowa, before coming to North Dakota, Senator JOHNSON had secured a collegiate education, been admitted to the bar, been active in politics, and had served one or two terms in the state senate and had held other positions of trust. All this I knew of him, but it was as a pioneer of North Dakota I first got really acquainted with him and first really learned to know him and became acquainted with his noble character and true worth. As I came to know him more intimately, I found how just, how conscientious, and how candid he was on all occasions and under all circumstances, and these traits did not at all times make him popular with a certain class of politicians.

There was one trait in Senator JOHNSON'S character that endeared him to the people of North Dakota and the Northwest, and that was, Mr. President, that the people believed, and justly so, that he was honest, and always trustworthy and reliable; and while some criticised him and said that he was possessed of a little undue vanity and all that, yet everybody, even his political enemies and those who were opposed to him, always conceded that he was a conscientious and honest man. Mr. President, he was not only conscientious and honest, but he was progressive and possessed of the true spirit of reform. While not an extreme radical, he, nevertheless, belonged to

that noble class of men to whom the world owes so much—who believe that there is ever much to cure, much to mend, and much to reconstruct in the social fabric. When a wrong is discovered, these men always seek to find a remedy.

While Senator JOHNSON had the confidence and good will of the masses of the people of his State, he was not always in favor with the active and controlling politicians. By some of these he was regarded as rather untractable and as a little too independent.

His political career in the State illustrates this. Twice before he was finally elected Senator he came near being chosen. The first time, in a caucus of 80 Republican votes, he received a total of 42 votes, a clear majority, and, although his party had a large majority in the legislature, yet he failed of election. The next time a fair majority of the legislature were elected under the express or implied promise to support him for Senator—at least he and his friends so believed—and yet this time, too, he failed of election. It was not till North Dakota had adopted a primary law that Senator JOHNSON finally came to his own, for then the people of that State rather than the politicians had the opportunity to express their opinion in his behalf. Under the peculiar primary law prevailing in that State he twice ran the gantlet of the primary and was indorsed and finally elected, and came to this body as one of its members.

His career in this body was brief and limited, but in the House of Representatives, where he served for a number of years, he occupied a prominent place and served on the Committee on Ways and Means when the Dingley law was passed. There he made as good a record as most of us can hope to make in these modern days when the general average is so high. Senator JOHNSON was a most tireless worker, and a close student of public affairs, always in touch with the ebb and flow of the throb of the heart of the masses, not so much to court popu-

larity as to gauge the conscience of the public. He aimed to faithfully represent rather than control the apirations and hopes of the people, and he was thoroughly conversant with their wants and needs.

I can not recall any public man in that State who was more in touch with the rank and file of the people during his lifetime than was he. North Dakota has had a great many able and progressive men, but he was in the front rank of those men. In the course of the development and upbuilding of our newer and younger States the flower of the youth of our older States have borne an active and leading part. We of the Northwest owe much to these men. In the State that I have the honor in part to represent we have had much help from this class of men. They were among our pioneers and state builders, great men who have built up our State and made it what it is to-day. The flower of the youth of New England and of the Middle States have come out to our great western country, and they have not only aided us in the settlement and development of our country but in Americanizing our large foreign-born population and infusing into them American energy and enterprise and the spirit of loyalty to the institutions of this country. Thus in the great State of North Dakota, while their immigration has been extensive, especially from the countries of northern Europe, they have also had among their immigrants the flower of the people of the older States, who came there and helped to make it the mighty Commonwealth which it is to-day.

I think it can be truly said of the people who have settled there, whether they are native or foreign born, that they are all infused with a spirit of devoted loyalty to and profound faith in the institutions of this country.

Mr. President, Senator JOHNSON, if his life had been spared, would not have figured as a great orator in this body, but he would have proved himself a good debater and a most thorough,

faithful, and energetic worker in committees, in formulating and preparing legislation. In short, he would have proved himself one of those faithful men who perform the drudgery of legislation, and who are more essential to legislative progress than the mere speechmakers. For some years he had been imbued with the laudable ambition to become a Member of the Senate, and when success finally crowned his efforts and he was chosen for a full term of six years death came upon him in the first year of his term after a single session. And thus it came to pass that in the midst of that life to which he had looked forward to with so much hope eternity claimed him as its own. To us who still linger here, with our eyes and thoughts fixed on mundane affairs, his death at the time and under the circumstances seems pathetic. But let us remember that that bliss which we here seek for in vain is only found in the realms of immortality.

## Address of Mr. Dolliver, of Iowa

Mr. President: It is a very melancholy duty which we perform to-day, in memory of one of our number who at the very beginning of his career in the Senate was summoned to the larger activities which lie beyond the life which we live in this world.

I had an opportunity for a great many years to be associated with our departed friend and to know him with some degree of intimacy. He was not born in Iowa, but his people were among the early settlers of that State. They came from Wisconsin when Senator Johnson was only a youth, so that his whole life and education was among my constituents.

From his boyhood he was a student and a man of ambition and enthusiasm in all the work which he undertook. He had the struggles which nearly everybody has had with the narrow surroundings of life in a new country. But these did not prevent him from securing a broad and liberal education. He began his studies in one of our little Iowa colleges near his home, the Upper Iowa University, and in 1873, with a very remarkable record for diligence as a student, he graduated from our state university.

From his early manhood he was a power in the community in which he lived, both by reason of his character and also by reason of his unusual equipment for the labors and responsibilities of public life. He served with distinction as a member of the senate in the general assembly of Iowa when he was a young man. He was a partisan, I reckon as well settled in his convictions, and even in his prejudices, as any man whom I have ever known; but that did not prevent him from being popular with all parties in every better sense of that word. He

was more than once the chosen representative of his party, while he remained in Iowa, in the conventions, local and national, which determined its policy and presented its candidates; and his departure from our State to a new and, as he thought, a larger field left behind him a multitude of friends whom no man could number.

He was one of the advance guard that went from Iowa into the Northwest. In this country we are a strangely nomadic people. I think the most startling peculiarity of our population is the fact that hardly anybody has felt bound to live permanently where he first located.

The old sense of the homestead which once dominated life in States like Virginia and Massachusetts, one of the traits of our inheritance, has practically disappeared, and there are States which have poured out the wealth of their citizenship, their young men, and their able men, to lay the foundations of society in unsettled communities afar off, which present the glamor of opportunity to the imaginations of the strong.

The State of Iowa in the last twenty years has contributed probably more than any one settled community in the United States to the growth of the newer States lying toward the West and toward the Northwest. He was a pioneer of that peculiarly American movement, because while Senator JOHNSON was of Scandinavian ancestry he was American, as his people were in every true sense of that word. He was a pioneer in the emigration which took so many to the prairies of North Dakota when that section of the United States was practically a wilderness—not a wilderness in the old sense of the word, for there lay that boundless meadow waiting only for the industry and skill of vigorous men and women to develop resources practically without limit.

He became a farmer in the actual sense of that word. We have had a good many Members of Congress who have com-

mended themselves to our favorable attention as farmers. Only a very few of them, however, have lived on their land within recent years. Senator JOHNSON was a man whose home was his North Dakota farm and whose life work outside of his public service was that most ancient and most honorable occupation of man.

I remember a few years ago when I was traveling across the State of North Dakota—I think it was in the presidential campaign of 1904—with a very distinguished party, including the former Vice-President of the United States, then a candidate for that office, the train passed the homestead of MARTIN N. JOHNSON, and we enjoyed the sight, at 60 miles an hour, of seeing our old friend out in front of his barn, waving an implement of husbandry, as a sort of passing welcome, to the travelers through his domain.

Notwithstanding the fact that his labors were engrossed with the cultivation of this North Dakota farm, he never altogether lost his taste for the public service. My first intimate acquaintance with him was when we came, near the same time, to Congress; and I will say, in passing, that men who served together their first terms in Congress, when this familiar machinery of government seemed new and strange, have had an experience which, whatever may be the vicissitudes of life, is never likely to be reproduced in any exigency of their service.

Young men who came for the first time to the Capitol as Representatives and fell into the storms which used to rage in the Hall of the House of Representatives week after week received impressions which made fast friends of those who enjoyed the experience together.

I remember that I came here with very definite ideals and a very high notion of the dignity and of the solemnity of Congress. I recall that once while the storm of insurrection against the newly elected Speaker, Mr. Reed, was at its height I lost

faith in free institutions. I said to myself, this howling multitude can not be the Government of the United States. I came over to the Senate as a sort of relief to excited feelings. I came in here timidly, having just learned of my privilege on this floor, and our venerable friend, the late Senator Morgan, was making a speech on the Nicaraguan canal. Everything seemed to be quiet. His speech moved like the steady stream that you find in a book—no inflections, no efforts at eloquent outbursts, hardly any punctuation, a flowing river of the most perfect English speech that I have ever heard spoken on this floor.

I noticed, however, that everybody seemed to take it for granted that Senator Morgan knew exactly what he was about and needed very little assistance from his audience in order to secure the necessary enthusiasm to proceed with his remarks. I said to myself, How can it be possible that the Government of the United States can be conducted by a mob in one end of the Capitol and a deserted Senate in the other?

I went into the chamber of the Supreme Court, and there I found a man reading a brief to the court in a patent case; and that spot alone filled the ideal that was in my mind of the dignity, the solemnity, and the safety of our institutions.

Senator JOHNSON and I shared these feelings together in the first years of our service. We sat near each other, and when afterwards we were appointed together on the Ways and Means Committee we formed one with another that bond of sympathy which always arises between two good people, both of whom occupy back seats. We sat on the committee during the long winter of 1896 97, when the Republican members were preparing the tariff law which has just disappeared under trying circumstances from our statute books. JOHNSON was one of the hardest workers upon the committee.

No detail of the business escaped him. He was never absent. He was never late. He always wanted to know. He tired some of the members of the committee—I may say all of them—by this zeal to know, and the absolute determination which was in his mind that nothing should be done without being fully explained. It was a hard winter. Every man who worked on the committee that winter was bound to every other man in the ties of a friendship which has been broken only as one after another has gone to his reward.

When he came to the Senate it was only the natural fruition of a career of unwearied devotion to the people he was called to represent. He stood for them in every sense of the word. He had borne with them the burdens of pioneer life. He had shared with them the labors of breaking up the tough sod. He had fought with them the good fight of the frontier and had come into the possession with them of the rewards of prosperity and success.

He was a man of inflexible conscience; a man who feared God and kept His commandments; a student of public questions, with mind and heart open to the problems of the times; a man faithful always in the discharge even of the humblest duties; and I felt with all of you a sincere sense of sorrow when, without notice even that he was sick, I heard that, in the very prime of his life, in the midst of public labors which promised new trophies of honor and distinction, he was stricken down.

We do well in the Senate and in the country to pay tribute to the memory of such a man. He had not a wide celebrity in any of the work which he had done. He was a modest man—a man who overestimated in no way either his talents or the importance of his service. He did good work with scant advertisement. But when he came here, in common with everybody who had ever known him, I made the prediction and indulged the constant belief that if his service was continued for any

length of time he would not only impress his personality upon this great assembly, but that he would have recognition among all his countrymen for good work well done.

Such a man is entitled to more than a passing word on such an occasion. We can not do anything to add to his reputation. We can not do anything to lighten the grief of his people nor to assuage the affliction of those who were near and dear to him. But we only discharge a duty—not a formal duty, but a duty which ought never to be neglected—by setting aside this hour for a glance at this peculiarly American career and for a tribute to this peculiarly useful public servant.

## Address of Mr. McCumber, of North Dakota

Mr. President: In the strength of his manhood, in the noonday of his vigor, and in the fullness of his intellectual power, when seemingly best prepared by learning and experience to serve his country and his State in that high official position to which he had been so recently elevated by the voice of a people, death has removed Senator Johnson from the field of this world's labors. He died in the city of Fargo on the 21st of October last, after a very brief illness.

Senator Martin Nelson Johnson was born in Racine County, Wis., on the 3d day of March, 1850. He was married to Miss Stella White on June 16, 1879, and is survived by her and by his daughter Edith (Mrs. S. G. Skulason), his daughter Nellie (Mrs. S. M. Hydle), his daughter Florence, and his son Ralph.

Senator Johnson's father and mother were both natives of Norway, the former emigrating to this country in 1839. In the year of his birth his family moved to the State of Iowa, where he was reared to manhood. After attending the Upper Iowa University, at Fayette, he entered the State University of Iowa and graduated therefrom in the year 1873. Then followed two years as instructor in the California Military Academy, at Oakland. In 1875 he returned to the State of Iowa. The same year he was elected to the state legislature. This was his first entry into political life. Since that time he has held the following official positions: In the year 1876 he was presidential elector on the Republican ticket. From 1877 to 1881 he was a member of the state senate of Iowa. From 1886 to 1890 he was district attorney in North Dakota. In 1889 he

was a member of the constitutional convention which framed the constitution of the State of North Dakota. From 1890 to 1898 he was Congressman at large from the State of North Dakota. At the primary election of 1908 he received the nomination for United States Senator and was elected by the state legislature on the 20th day of January, 1909, and held that position from March 3, 1909, to October 21, the day of his death.

His public services to the State of North Dakota were most important. A firm believer in the cause of temperance, he was the strongest advocate for, and the most potent force in securing, constitutional prohibition against the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the State. Later, when an attempt was made to transfer the Louisiana Lottery to the State of North Dakota, Mr. JOHNSON was the leading figure and power in the battle against that attempt.

In politics he was a Republican, a firm believer in the protective policy of that party and an earnest advocate of its sound-money principles. In the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Congresses he was a member of the Ways and Means Committee of the House, and was an influential and an important factor in framing the Dingley tariff law. As a Member of Congress he introduced as an amendment to the military appropriation bill a provision for abolishing the canteen in the United States Army, and thus planted the seed of a sentiment which grew until it became a law upon our statute books.

During the campaign of 1896 he made many addresses in favor of the gold standard, and his presentation of the subject had much to do with lining up his own State in favor of that policy. Although for nearly nine years he held no public position, he nevertheless took a leading part in every political campaign in his State.

His previous experience in tariff legislation was a valuable asset, and had its influence upon his actions and votes in the last Congress, where, after securing what he considered the best bill that could be passed, he supported by his vote on all occasions the report of the Committee on Finance, and gave his hearty adherence to the present administration.

Thus his public career has been ever one of high ideals and unflinching fidelity to principle. But, Mr. President, I doubt very much if the public career of any man, however great, is ever so potent in its influence for good upon future generations as is a private life well and honorably lived.

> Life is made up, not of great sacrifices or duties, but of little things in which smiles, kindness, and small obligations given habitually are what preserve the heart and secure comfort.

The political life of President McKinley is one that challenges the admiration of every citizen in the land. His fortitude, his wisdom, his zeal, and his patience give special luster to his political actions. But, after all, that element of his character which will live longest and sink deepest into the hearts of the American people is the grandeur of his private life, its fidelity, its sympathy and tenderness, and the serenity of its close, when forgotten were the duties of state and his whole life's work found expression in his last words, "Nearer, my God, to Thee."

President Lincoln faced a mightier public calamity and was confronted by greater and more complex political problems than have ever been faced by any other American official. He met them all with a wisdom and skill and with a courage and faith unsurpassed and unequaled in the world's long history. But that which will make the life of Abraham Lincoln immortal, not only in the history of his own country, but throughout all countries, are his homely virtues, his great heart, his sympathy and tenderness, his mercy and forgiveness.

Mr. President, the firmament of the world's history is already studded with stars of the first magnitude, each with a brilliancy reflecting its own special virtues, each with its ray touching into activity some noble emotion or ambition, each portraying our ideal of the soldier, the statesman, the philanthropist, the poet, the scientist, the inventor, the great and good of all ages. Their numbers are sufficient to fill the world with inspiration and engender laudable ambition in every heart susceptible to their influence. But the influence of a mighty name of some past age upon the individual is slight when compared with that of the living presence, the comradeship of the great and wise and good of our own day. Each distant star may be a sun that warms a hundred worlds, but it is the fire of our own hearths whose glow must ever warm into being those nobler impulses that shall give strength and character to each succeeding generation.

To have made the life of one woman a joy and a comfort, to have raised a family of boys and girls upon whose character he has left the impress of his own integrity and courage and honor and lofty purposes—qualities that die not with the man, but are transmitted through generation after generation—surely this is the apex of all true greatness.

Measured by that standard the private life of Senator JOHNSON eclipses even the fair record of his public services. His home life was ideal. He was husband, father, instructor, and companion. Those who knew him well tell me that no matter how dark the clouds might gather around him, he brought nothing but sunshine into his own home surroundings. His heart was ever kind and generous. Neither rudeness nor ungraciousness ever found a place in his nature.

Conscious of the uprightness of his motives, his mind was ever serenity itself. In political defeat or private misfortune

he was ever in a happy frame of mind. Bright and quick in repartee, his wit was that "which loved to play, not wound." He had few enemies, because he would be no man's enemy. He forgave without the asking. His heart was big enough to house the world in its good will, but in it was no room to harbor the memory of a wrong.

As an advocate of a principle, his addresses were always clear and logical. He talked to the people and with them. In all his debates no one ever heard a word of bitterness against an opponent.

Senator JOHNSON was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church—not an idle, but an active, member of that body. As a coworker in that church, his foremost thought was ever concerning the young, the coming generation. Many a church assembly has heard him plead for childhood's rights:

> Start the children right; surround their younger days with helpful and healthful environments; engender in their nature fidelity to principle and courage to battle for it; teach them patriotism and temperance in all things.

These were the principles he advocated; and that which he advised others he also carried out by example.

To most of the Senators he was a comparative stranger. Their acquaintance with him was confined to the single special session which closed August 5; and yet, though a new man in their midst, though self-repressed by a natural sense of modesty and that unwritten rule which expects but little participation in debates by a Senator during the first session in which he serves, Senator JOHNSON was rapidly winning the esteem and confidence of his fellow-Members and was already impressing the Senate with the sturdiness of his character. Those who had previous service with him in the House knew that he would in the Senate maintain his excellent political record.

Mr. President, in these days when the spirit of commercialism dominates a larger portion of our press than ever before, when sensationalism is rampant over all the land, when false issues, shamelessly arrayed in words never intended for ignoble use, are manufactured for selfish ends, when temptation to ride into places of trust on some tidal wave of popular error created for that purpose and which may be as transient and ephemeral as the mist, is so prevalent, we need not so much past ideals to guide and strengthen us as men of to-day with courage invincible for truth, living examples that it is better to be right at all times than to be popular some of the time. Senator JOHNSON had that courage, that fidelity that would deem defeat a victory if in the right cause. That is the record not only of his public career, but as well of his private life.

His desire was to benefit humanity. It was his ambition for twenty years to become a Member of the United States Senate, to carry that desire into effective legislation; and when that ambition was at last realized, no man was happier than he or more ready to take upon his shoulders all the burdens and duties of that high office.

Upon the trestle board of hope he had long before traced the design of his own life's edifice—a structure which should be useful, and fair, and true, and lofty. Patiently and faithfully had he builded along those lines until its fair proportions foreshadowed its future grandeur. And when it had reached that stage of completion from whence he could clearly discern the culmination of his endeavors, the fruition of his ambition, and his heart's fairest hopes, the stroke of death fell upon him, and noble resolutions and lofty purposes were as a dream that is past.

We are unable, Mr. President, to comprehend that edict of Providence which cut short a promising career at a time that

seemed to him and to those who knew him to be so propitious for good.

> Yet through all we know that this tangled skein is in the hands of One who sees the end from the beginning. He shall yet unravel all.

In a little mound overlooking his own home, the scenes of his labors and joys for more than twenty years, he sleeps to-day, dead, but living still in the influence of his past life, living in the lives of friends and neighbors, living in the lives of his own children, and to live again in lives that are yet to be.

> For, as a fountain disappears
> To gush again in future years,
> So hidden blood may find a day,
> When centuries have rolled away,
> And fresher lives betray at last
> The lineage of a far-off past.

## PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE

THURSDAY, *March 24, 1910.*

The House met at 12 o'clock m.

The following prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D.:

Our Father in heaven, we bless Thee for the goodly heritage which has come down to us out of the past, enriching our lives, making the world a better dwelling place for mankind. Help us to realize that it is not what a man gets out of the world, but what he puts into it, that counts in the dispensation of Thy Providence. May we be inspired to use the talents which Thou hast bestowed upon us to enrich mankind and leave the world a little better than we found it, in the Spirit of the Lord, Christ. Amen.

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I desire to offer the following resolution.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from North Dakota asks unanimous consent to offer the following resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Ordered*, That there be a session of the House on Sunday, the 24th day of April, at 12 o'clock, to be set apart for addresses on the life, character, and public services of the late MARTIN N. JOHNSON, late a Senator from the State of North Dakota.

The question was taken, and the order was agreed to.

SUNDAY, *April 24, 1910.*

The House met at 12 o'clock m.

The Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D., delivered the following prayer:

O Thou Great Spirit, Father Soul, ever present in the soul of man to inspire and encourage to nobler life. We thank Thee

with all our mind and heart and soul that the spirit of the Christian religion is surely coming into the hearts of Thy children; that the creeds and dogmas which enthralled are passing away; that the Christian religion is no longer regarded as a riddle to be solved, but a life to be lived for the good of humanity. We are assembled here to-day in memory of one who lived for his home, which he loved with all his heart, the purity of which he regarded as the bulwark of civilization; for his country, which he held sacred and worthy of noblest effort and personal sacrifice. He recognized behind all we perceive with our physical senses a supreme intelligence, a moral order, and spiritual realm, and lived and died a consistent member of his chosen church.

His fellow-countrymen were quick to recognize the qualities of mind and heart which marked him a superior and called him to public service. Wherever he was placed he satisfied their expectations in a service of industry, courage, honesty, and efficiency. Long may his memory live in the hearts of those who knew him, and to inspire coming generations. And now, O Father, comfort those who knew and loved him, especially be very near to the faithful wife, who was ever an inspiration and a solace in victory or defeat; to the children whom she bore him; may the blessed hope of immortality encourage them to look forward to the bright beyond with perfect faith, where Thy children shall be gathered in the bonds of love forever. And pæans of praise we will ever give to Thee through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Hanna). The Clerk will read the order of the day.

The clerk read as follows:

*Ordered*, That there be a session of the House on Sunday, the 24th day of April, at 12 o'clock, to be set apart for addresses on the life, character, and public services of Hon. MARTIN N. JOHNSON, late a Senator from the State of North Dakota.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would ask the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. GRONNA] to kindly take the chair.

Mr. GRONNA assumed the chair as Speaker pro tempore.

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully offer the following resolution, and ask that it be read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Dakota offers a resolution, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

Whereas the House of Representatives has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. MARTIN N. JOHNSON, late a Senator of the United States from the State of North Dakota: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of the late Senator MARTIN N. JOHNSON, and as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator MARTIN N. JOHNSON, and in recognition of his eminent ability and distinguished service, the House, at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings shall stand adjourned.

That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the late Senator MARTIN N. JOHNSON; and

That the Clerk be ordered to communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The question was taken, and the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

# MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

## ADDRESS OF MR. HANNA, OF NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. SPEAKER: On March 24 last, by unanimous consent, today, Sunday, April 24, 1910, was set apart by this House for addresses on the life, character, and public service of Hon. MARTIN N. JOHNSON, late a Senator from the State of North Dakota.

Senator JOHNSON was born March 3, 1850, in Racine County, Wis. He died October 21, 1909, at Fargo, Cass County, N. Dak. His father was the Rev. Nelson Johnson, who came to this country in 1839 and who was a Methodist Episcopal clergyman for more than twenty-five years. The Senator's father was also a farmer and kept close to the soil.

The family moved to Iowa in 1850, and it was in that State that Senator JOHNSON was reared to manhood and educated for his life's work. He prepared for college and entered the Upper University of Iowa at Fayette. From there he went to the state university and took the full classical course and was graduated in 1873.

After his graduation he became a teacher and taught in the California Military Academy at Oakland, Cal.

In 1875 he returned to Iowa, studied law, and was admitted to the bar. He entered politics at the age of 25 years and was elected a member of the legislature. A year after his election to the legislature he was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket and helped to elect Rutherford B. Hayes President of the United States.

In 1877 he was elected state senator in the state legislature and served four years in that capacity. In 1882 he came to what was then the Territory of Dakota and settled a short distance west of the city of Grand Forks, near what is now the village of Petersburg, in Nelson County.

Senator JOHNSON for the first four years after his arrival in the Territory of Dakota devoted all of his attention to farming. In 1886 he was elected district attorney of his county and again in 1888, serving four years in that capacity. In 1889 the Dakotas, with other Territories, were admitted as States, and Senator JOHNSON was sent as one of the delegates to the constitutional convention held at Bismarck, the state capital, and there, as a member of that convention, he was one of the hard-working and faithful members of that important body. He was chairman of the committee on corporations other than municipal, and he had largely to do with the shaping of legislation on prohibition and education.

In that year, when the legislature of the new State met, he was a candidate for the United States Senate, and it is believed by many of his friends that he should have been one of the first Senators from the State of North Dakota.

In 1890 he was elected a Member of the National House of Representatives and was three times thereafter renominated by acclamation and elected a Member of Congress and so served eight years in this body, with credit to himself and honor to the people of the State which he represented. He served on several of the most important committees in this House, among them being the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures and the Committee on Ways and Means and was a member of the Committee on Ways and Means at the time the so called Dingley tariff law was enacted.

He married Miss Stella White, who survives him, in 1879. She was the daughter of Amos White, and her ancestors have

lived in America for more than two and one-half centuries. Senator JOHNSON and his wife were the parents of four children—three daughters and one son—all of whom are now living.

The eldest daughter, Edith, is the wife of S. G. Skulason, a prominent young attorney of the second judicial district. Mr. Skulason served as private secretary during Senator JOHNSON'S service in the United States Senate. Mr. Skulason and his wife are the parents of two children.

The second daughter, Nellie, is the wife of Mr. S. M. Hydle, of Williston, N. Dak., who is in the banking business in that city. They have one child.

The third daughter, Florence, is a young lady about 17 years of age and is at home with her mother.

The only son, Ralph, is married, in business and doing well at Bronson, Minn.

In the summer of 1907, Senator JOHNSON announced himself as a candidate for the United States Senate and at the statewide primary election in June, 1908, he received the second highest vote for the Senatorship in a field of four candidates. Under the law in the State of North Dakota, where no candidate receives the majority of all the votes cast for Senator, or at least 40 per cent, it is necessary for the two highest candidates to run again at the regular election in November; and at the second primary election Senator JOHNSON received the highest vote, and when the legislature met in January, 1909, he was elected by a large majority of that legislature as United States Senator from the State of North Dakota.

I personally knew Senator JOHNSON for a little over twenty years, and in looking back over his life can not help but feel that it is one which must appeal to everyone who is interested in the possibilities that lie before a man who has the steadfastness of purpose, the resolve to accomplish, the good judg-

ment, the high integrity, and the confidence of the people in the measure which Senator JOHNSON had.

In the constitutional convention he was one of its best members, always standing for that which was right, sound, and conservative, and he had largely to do with the fact that North Dakota has prohibition against the sale of liquor stamped into the constitution of the State.

When he was first defeated for United States Senator, in 1889, many men in his place would, perhaps, have felt aggrieved, as he certainly had a right to feel, and would, perhaps, have halted in their loyalty and in their work for the party; but not so with him. He was an optimist, always looking to the future, and while he may have felt that he had not been treated rightly, yet he never halted in his allegiance to the party of which he was a member and which he believed represented that which was best for his State and Nation.

In 1890 he was nominated and elected to Congress and served continuously for eight years. These were the years when the whole country was under a very serious state of depression; hard times, panics, and the prices of everything, and especially those products which the farmer produces, were at the very lowest point. Senator JOHNSON was a member of the Ways and Means Committee here in this House in 1896. He made a study of the tariff question. He believed that protection was necessary to make this country a great manufacturing nation and to give a home market to the farmers for their products. He went before the people of North Dakota upon this proposition and upon the question of a sound currency, and they returned him as Representative in Congress as long as he was a candidate.

In 1898 he again became a candidate for the United States Senate, but was defeated in the legislature the following winter, although he was the leading candidate in a field of a number

of candidates for the position. He went back to his farm cheerfully, optimistically, and just as good a Republican as he had ever been. In the campaigns in the years that followed he was always ready to go to any place in the State and to speak for the ticket, and did so; and finally, after all the years and after a long struggle in the primaries, in the winter of 1909 he was made the unanimous choice of the Republicans of the state legislature of his State and was elected to the position which he had long and honorably sought—that of United States Senator.

He came to Washington and here met many of his olde omrades, with whom he had served in the old days when he was a Member of this body. He was here during the special session of this, the Sixty-first, Congress, while the tariff bill was under discussion, and by reason of his long service in this House and his service on the Ways and Means Committee at the time of the passage of the Dingley tariff law he was consulted by the leaders in the Senate many times upon the schedules that went to make up the new tariff law. He voted for the law, and was prepared, as I have heard him state, to go out before the people of his State and to defend his position and vote.

Senator JOHNSON was always a man who was never afraid to do that which he believed was the right thing to do, regardless of the effect that it might have upon his own personal political fortunes or ambitions. The question that was always uppermost in his mind was whether a proposition was right or not, and if he believed it was right he never hesitated or faltered in his course.

When the money question came up in 1896 it looked as though the State of North Dakota would espouse the cause of free silver. Senator JOHNSON believed in sound money. It did not seem to be a popular thing for him to do, but he went out over

the State, regardless of his own political fortunes, and stood solidly, firmly, and true for sound money and a sound currency, and time has proven that he was right.

I heard him express himself many times last summer, and again last fall, while he was in Fargo, just before his death, stating that he was looking forward to the time when he could go upon the stump in his State and take up the question of the new tariff law with his constituents, as he believed that he could convince the people of North Dakota that he had voted right and in their interest upon that question.

He was a man of the very highest character, and had a very strong hold upon a large majority of the people of his State. The reason for this, I believe, was the fact that everyone, whether they were with him or against him, believed that he was absolutely honest in his views and convictions; and thinking of him to-day, remembering him as I knew him, it seems to me that no higher tribute could be paid to him, that I could say nothing better or stronger in his favor, as I speak to you now, than to say that the rank and file of the people of the State of North Dakota believed absolutely in the honesty, in the sincerity, and in the integrity of Senator JOHNSON.

He was a Christian man and lived the life of a Christian in its fullest sense. He had been a member and an active member of the Methodist Church his whole life. He was always ready to lend a helping hand to every need and to every good enterprise and was one of the most kindly and approachable men that I have ever known.

He died in my home city. I saw him only a day or two before his death, and he had no thought, and I had none, that the end was so near. He was sure he would be out again within a day or two and would be all right and as strong and as well as ever, and I can not describe to you the great shock that the

news of his death was to me. Death is always sudden at the very best.

His funeral was held in the little village where he had lived and been its foremost citizen for so many years. It had been storming for some days previously; the roads were bad, and the day was bleak and cold. The leading men of the State were present to attend the funeral—the governor, United States Senator, Congressmen, members of the legislature, and men of prominence in every walk and avenue of life; but of all those who were present that which appealed to me most was to see gathered there such a large number of his old friends and neighbors who had come from miles around, the men and women who had gone into that part of the State as he had in the early days, who were, like him, pioneers, and who had seen and suffered with him the hardships and the trials of the early years, those hardships and trials so incident to the opening up of a new country, when crops were bad, when frost and hot winds and drought had ruined many times the expectations of their efforts and of their labors, and when sometimes it had perhaps seemed as though the struggle was too hard and could not be kept up; and then, with that "Hope that ever springs eternal from the human heart," they and he had struggled again and again, until at last God in His infinite mercy had crowned and rewarded their efforts with success. It mattered not to these old friends, who came driving in from far and near, how raw and cold the day or how rough and muddy the roads were. They had come to tender to him who was dead the tribute of their respect and of their love.

The little church could not half accommodate the people, but those who could not get inside patiently waited outside, that after the service they might follow the remains to their last resting place. An eloquent and touching sermon was preached

by the presiding elder of the Methodist Church of that district, an old friend of the Senator.

The coffin was covered with flowers, and I could not help but wish that those flowers, with their petaled lips, might have had the power to speak and, whispering, tell to him the story of the love and respect which his friends and neighbors had for him.

It is hard to understand in this life why men struggle for power all their lives and at last, perhaps, reach the very height of their ambition, and then death comes and cuts the brittle thread of life and launches them into eternity. We can not understand these things. We can only say that One who is greater than we decides the question of life or death for us. His laws are immutable, and we can not and we must not question. 'Tis said that—

> All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances, and one man in his time plays many parts

Senator JOHNSON had his part, and he played it nobly. He has left behind him an unsullied name, a splendid record, and while we may wish that he might have lived on and continued to serve his State and Nation, yet the example which he has set for our young men and young women, his exemplary life, as we look back over it to-day, is a splendid heritage for his wife and children and for his children's children in the years to come.

To me he was not only a political associate; he was more; he was my friend; and I am glad to stand here to-day and to add my testimony with others to the memory of this upright and honorable man.

> Friend after friend departs.
> Who has not lost a friend?
> There is no union here of hearts
> That finds not here an end

## Address of Mr. Martin, of South Dakota

Mr. Speaker: My personal acquaintance with Senator Johnson was of short duration, but it was long enough to at once recognize the type and quality of the man. He was friendly, companionable, public spirited, and full of zeal in the performance of the labors of every day.

His service in the House of Representatives terminated two years before mine began. My opportunity to know him personally was confined to the special session of the present Congress, when he came again to Washington as Senator from a sister State. He was a frequent visitor upon the floor of the House. He seemed to have a fondness for the old arena of legislative debate where he was a participant in the earlier years of his congressional service—a sentiment quite common among Senators who began their national careers in this, the people's legislative body.

While having but a short personal acquaintance with our departed friend, I have entire familiarity with the region and conditions in which he lived his honorable and useful life. His youth was spent in Iowa. He moved to Dakota Territory in 1882. The organic act creating two States in 1889 out of the Territory of Dakota left him in the northern State. There is much in common between these two young Commonwealths. Vast stretches of virgin prairie attract the ambitious home builder. Mineral wealth slumbers beneath the surface, to be awakened by the touch of development. A northern latitude, high altitude, and a bracing climate are proofs against ennui and inaction. Nature is new and undeveloped and potential, and fairly urges to labor and conquest. It is a poor man's

country, with certain reward for industrious, frugal toil. Conditions like these have always attracted a hardy, honest, dependable citizenship. It was in this region of enterprise and opportunity that MARTIN N. JOHNSON found a congenial field for the growth and fruition of his strong, courageous, and kindly manhood. Here he lived and wrought successfully, a man among men.

Senator JOHNSON was a product of the new West. His parents before him, and he in his turn, met obstacles only to overcome them. The daily hardships of the frontier life only developed skill for other conflicts and added fiber and quality of character to the manhood and womanhood of the frontier.

The pioneers are the real heroes of American progress. From the time that our Puritan fathers landed at Plymouth and began the conquest of a continent, we have been a nation of pioneers. Difficulties, dangers, and obstacles have been encountered on every hand. But they have been met and vanquished, and the national character has grown strong in the conflict. This has been our national experience as settlement has pushed on over the Alleghanies, across the valleys of the Ohio, the Mississippi and the Missouri, scaled the Rocky Mountains, and touched upon the Pacific coast. The pioneer conditions that contributed strength and independence of character to our colonial forefathers are still a factor in the new life of the intermountain and Pacific West. But our virgin territory is fast disappearing. Soon, like Alexander, we will have no more worlds to conquer. Wealth and luxury will be our portion, with all the insidious temptations to idleness and ease.

Will the nation be strong and brave and honest in affluence as it has been in privation and hardship? And what national experience may we hope will supply the loss of the discipline and educational quality of the frontier?

The death of a typical, able, successful man of the West suggests the observations which I have made.

Senator JOHNSON belonged to the common people, of whom Abraham Lincoln said that "God must love the common people or He would not have made so many of them."

In the death of such a man the nation sustains an inevitable loss. But his memory will abide—a bright and undying legacy to his family and friends.

### Address of Mr. Sulzer, of New York.

Mr. Speaker: The country lost an able and a fearless and faithful public servant in the sad and sudden death of Senator Johnson. He was a man of the people and for the people. He had an inherent regard for justice; the courage of his convictions; a fine sense of honor; a rugged, sunshiny nature; a generous, forgiving disposition; the respect and admiration of all who knew him; and an intense love of our free institutions and devotion to country that was patriotism personified.

When I came to Congress, nearly sixteen years ago, Mr. Johnson was one of the stalwart leaders in this House from the great Northwest and a useful and prominent member of the Ways and Means Committee. He took a leading part in the legislative work that culminated in the enactment of the Dingley tariff law, and the Record shows that he was alert and active in framing and shaping many good laws for the benefit of all the people. He had an attractive personality and manifested fraternal interest in the welfare of a new Member. At all events, it was so in my case, and in the very beginning of the celebrated first session of the Fifty-fourth Congress, in 1895, we became fast friends; and that friendship growing stronger and stronger all the time, and ripened by the years that have come and gone, lasted until the untimely summons of death called Senator Johnson to the great beyond and checked forever, in the midst of his busy life, at the summit of his career, and on the threshold of his greater opportunities for good, his earthly endeavors for his State and his country and his fellow man.

The story of the life of Martin N. Johnson is illustrative of the opportunities of the Republic, and accentuates what has

frequently been said about so many great men who have achieved eternal fame in our legislative history. He was eminently a self-made man—the architect of his own career. He was born on a farm in Racine County, Wis., on the 3d day of March, 1850. The same year his parents removed to a farm in the State of Iowa. He attended the district school, did the usual farm work, and lived the life of a country boy on the frontier. Being of a studious disposition, he was sent to the Iowa State University, from which institution he graduated with high honors in 1873. He then went to California and taught for two years in the California Military Academy at Oakland. He studied law there and was admitted to the bar in 1876. Then he returned to the State of Iowa and served a term in each branch of the state legislature. He was a Hayes elector from the Dubuque district and voted for Hayes in the electoral college of 1876. He moved to Dakota in 1882 and took up a home on government land, on which he resided up to the time of his death. He was elected district attorney in Dakota in 1886 and reelected in 1888; was a member of the constitutional convention of North Dakota in 1889; and chairman of the first Republican state convention the same year. He was elected to the Fifty-second, the Fifty-third, the Fifty-fourth, and the Fifty-fifth Congresses, and served on the Ways and Means Committee in the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Congresses while Nelson Dingley, of Maine, was the distinguished chairman. Thomas B. Reed was the Speaker, and Dingley and Reed and JOHNSON were great friends.

He came very near getting the nomination for United States Senator in 1889. He retired from Congress that year after his defeat for the United States Senate, and for the next eight years devoted his time almost exclusively to his farm. He did not, however, lose interest in matters of public moment.

He was a great advocate of the election of United States Senators by the people. He was a believer in the efficacy of direct primaries. He had faith in the people, believed that they could be trusted, and that they had sufficient capacity for self-government. He did much to write upon the statute books of the State of North Dakota the direct primary law, and, through its agency, when the people at the polls could express their preference, he was nominated and elected a Senator in the Congress of the United States without substantial opposition. The people believed in his integrity, in his ability, and in his devotion to their best interest. He took his seat in the United States Senate on the 4th of March, 1909, and his term of office would have expired on March 3, 1915. His service in the Senate was brief. He died at Fargo October 21, 1909. During the extraordinary session of the Congress last year I saw much of Senator JOHNSON, and we renewed old friendship, talked over old times, and his sudden death, so unexpected, was a grievous blow to us all and a national loss to the people of the country generally.

> Life is but a day, at most,
> Sprung from night, in darkness lost.

To-day, on this sad occasion, when we meet to pay tribute to the virtues and to recount the good deeds of our departed friend, I come with others—friends and admirers of this good and true man—to place on record my tribute to the enduring memory of my congressional associate for many years—the Hon. MARTIN N. JOHNSON. Words at best are feeble at a time like this; but how I wish they could be potent enough to call him back to his stricken and bereaved family; to his innumerable and sorrowing friends; to the plain people of the country whose faithful servant he always was, in Congress and out of Congress—but, alas! it can not be—no words can bring him

back to those he loved and to those who loved him; no earthly power can now call back this fearless friend of the oppressed—this champion of the right—to finish the work here he had planned and had so much at heart.

MARTIN N. JOHNSON was a believer in the good of humanity—he was the friend of the distressed and of the cause that lacked assistance. He stood for the eternal right, for fair play, for equality before the law, for exact justice, and for charity to all. He was liberal in his views; broad in his ideas. He trusted the people, and he believed the world was growing better. He was an optimist and not a pessimist. He hated cant and despised hypocrisy. He was a plain, honest, modest man, who loved his fellow-man. He was true to eternal principles, and always dared to do the right as he saw it, regardless of consequences. He was the friend of the poor and the oppressed, and struggled all his life to lift humanity to a higher plane and push it forward a step in the grand march of progress and of civilization. He was a loving husband, an indulgent father, a sincere friend, a believer in the greatness and the destiny of the Republic—proud of the land of his birth—and he gloried in the grandeur of its flag. He believed in the present and never faltered in his hope for the future. He was a faithful official, true to every trust, loyal to every principle, and died in the service of his country—a distinguished Senator in Congress—loved and honored and mourned by all who knew him.

## Address of Mr. Ellis, of Oregon

Mr. Speaker: I know full well that there is nothing I can say to-day that will add to the essential worth or merit of our departed friend, Senator Johnson. He exemplified perhaps as much as any man within my knowledge the possibilities under our form of government for promotion and going forward in this life by those without fortune. His early life and opportunities were not without hardships. He had to meet the adversities of life as many others have had to do. He made haste slowly, going step by step, conquering one obstacle after another, with his eye ever upon the main object of his life, and as he went forward honestly and conscientiously, discharging every duty, he achieved one success after another until he reached the crowning ambition of his life.

As has been well said by the gentleman from New York [Mr. Sulzer], he was one of those who took a profound interest in a new Member. When I came as a Member of the Fifty-third Congress he had preceded me by one term of service, and naturally I sought those who seemed most inclined to give aid, comfort, and information to the new Member. As he and I came from the same school in Iowa and had both passed our boyhood days in that State, and had in our early manhood moved on farther west, I sought the company of the then Representative, afterwards Senator, Johnson, and I found him always willing to go out of his way to aid and help me in any of the work which devolved upon me as a new Member of the House. I owe much to the advice that he gave me and the assistance that he afforded whenever I called upon him.

Senator JOHNSON came of that rugged race of Scandinavians who possess the maximum amount of the desirable qualities of life and the minimum amount of the undesirable. He was honest, upright, and had a desire on all occasions to do the right thing, as those of us know full well who came in contact with him when questions were before this House upon which he might well have wavered. As has been already referred to by one who has spoken here to-day, when the great monetary question was before Congress, and the State which he represented was thought to be leaning strongly toward the policy of free silver, Senator JOHNSON took advanced ground in favor of the gold standard and made one of the strongest arguments that was made upon this floor in behalf of sustaining the same. And when it was suggested to him that perhaps he would find disfavor at home by the course he had adopted here, he said it mattered not to him; that he had the approval of his own conscience and believed that he was right, and was willing to undertake the job of squaring himself before his constituency upon any question which his own conscience approved. He was emphatically a man of strong convictions and he had the courage to maintain them.

Would there were more men to-day in public life who possess these essential qualifications of strong and sturdy manhood. I met him again when he returned here as Senator at the beginning of the Sixty-first Congress. We renewed our acquaintance, recounted many pleasant instances that had transpired in the six years we had served together in the House, and I found him the same sturdy, straightforward, loving friend I had left when we parted in 1899 at the close of the Fifty-fifth Congress.

I was, indeed, shocked when I picked up the morning paper in October last and found that he had passed away. Little did I dream I would not meet him again when I came back to resume

my duties at the second session of the Sixty-first Congress. This only illustrates, however, the uncertainty of life and certainty of death. Senator JOHNSON was a man in every sense of the word. He measured up to the full standard of Christian manhood, acting out in every sense of the word that which he professed, and that trait of his character is what impressed his personality so strongly upon his friends. There was no kind of hypocrisy about him. He was a man who, if he believed a thing, was willing to advocate it.

He was one of the strongest advocates on the floor of this House in doing away with the sale of liquor in public buildings, all over the country, and especially within the Capitol of the United States. I have heard him often speak of it. He thought that it was something that we as legislators could not afford to give our sanction to by allowing it to remain here. I have talked with him after his return and know how gratified he was to see that this had been brought about.

I know there are many things about the life and character of Senator JOHNSON that might be recalled here, but I do not feel myself competent to add anything to what has already been said. I desire only to say this, I am proud of the fact that he was my friend. He was a man to whom I could go for counsel and advice, and when he gave it he gave it in that way that impressed me with the idea that he was not seeking to assume the attitude of superiority, but that what he said came from a heart overflowing in a desire to do good. He was a great believer in the common people, and had little use for the so-called bosses. He had implicit confidence in the people at large, and to them he looked for preference and promotion.

In this he was not deceived; when his case was properly placed before them they responded to his desire. He had in his election as Senator reached the highest ambition of his life,

a seat in the United States Senate, and it is to be regretted that he could not have lived to fill out his term, which no doubt would have been followed by another and another, by the will of a grateful people of the State that he represented. But he was called and answered the summons, and he went forth, as described by the poet, as one who—

> Sustained and soothed
> By an unfaltering trust, approached his grave
> Like one that wraps the drapery of his couch
> About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams

## Address of Mr. Calderhead, of Kansas

Mr. Speaker: I have but a few words to add to the just tributes that have been paid to the memory of Senator Johnson. My acquaintance with him was only during the term of the Fifty fourth Congress. He had already served two terms, and at the time I came in he was a member of the great Ways and Means Committee. During that Fifty-fourth Congress I served upon other committees, and I came in direct contact with him only upon the floor of the House. I found him then just as he has been described by those who have spoken, and who had longer acquaintance and more familiarity with him, a sterling man, master of his passions, and dominant over his own soul, fearless in the expression of his convictions concerning everything that was done here, kind and generous to those who differed with him. It was evident from his manner of speech that he was an example of the great American manhood that grows up in this Republic. I did not recognize in him the feelings of ambition for honor. There was in him a sterling devotion to duty. He did not appear at any time to be conscious of his great ability or even of his great capacity for work. He seemed to be seeking for the truth, and when he found it he was without fear in proclaiming it. It was easy to see by his manner of speech that he was one of the men who had battled with life for opportunity from his childhood up, and he had upon him the marks of that battle.

Somehow or other he seemed to be unconscious of the great cities and of their population and of their habits and customs. He had about him the air of a man who knew the vast breadth of the country and the vast objects of the nation. He was

familiar with the home life of his people, and with the things that they needed, and it seemed to him that the purpose of this great Government and all its work was not so much the building up of a great commerce as it was the building up of a worthy citizenship and the true development of the individual. He was one of the men who seemed instinctively to know the truth of the words of our Savior, when he said, "Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it, and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it." That seems to be a paradox, a contradiction in terms. The best illustration of its true meaning is in the life of the great Apostle Paul, who, when he went to Athens, seemed, even to himself afterwards, to have been seeking honor as much as proclaiming faith. Upon Mars Hill he stood among the poets and philosophers of that great civilization and first introduced himself by showing his familiarity with the great poets of that people, as if by that display of learning he would attract the attention of the splendid audience who had assembled to hear him, but when he came to proclaim the central truth of his message, the resurrection of the Savior, the audience broke up in a babble.

And he went away, and the only remaining record of that visit to Athens is in the words "and he founded no church there." Then in humiliation he took up his abode in what was known as the richest and wickedest city among men. For two whole years he toiled with his own hands for his own support, and then said that it was with fear and trembling that he did it. Afterwards he came to the knowledge that it was not his to seek honor, that it was not his to seek fame, that it was not his to seek power, but his to lose his life in the great service of proclaiming the truth. And so in that wicked city of Corinth the man who feared no other thing in all his history, except that he might be seeking self-honor instead of the honor of his Master, began our great western civilization. And from his time to

this the doctrine upon which our civilization has been built has been the doctrine of self-sacrifice.

There are some things that are better than life, and among these are love, honor, courage, fidelity, and a noble self-sacrifice

Senator JOHNSON, while I knew him, appeared to be unconscious of the fact that he was brave, unconscious of the fact that he was able, and unconscious of the fact that at any time he might be sacrificing the honors of men by doing his duty here. He did his daily work as if it was a duty, an obedience which he owed, and by it honor came to him.

The words that we say here will be more of benefit to us than they can be to his memory, and more of consolation to the bereaved family than they can be to us. The words we say here in memorial of him serve also to place us under a further bond to maintain the standard of life that he kept high before himself and before us. To his wife and children our words bear witness to our high regard for him and that amongst us he indeed was worthy.

I can not look upon death and memorial services as the most unfortunate or sad occurrences. There are many other things that are worse. In fact, a life of self-sacrifice and death in the sublime faith which he had, that beyond the grave was the nobler life and the higher purpose of the Infinite Creator, these are things we are reminded of by our speeches here to-day. These things prompt us to a higher accomplishment of the duties that lie before us. Of the man who in two years endeared himself to me by many kindnesses, as he did to so many other Members of the House, we can but speak our word in honor and say farewell till the morning.

## Address of Mr. Steenerson, of Minnesota

Mr. Speaker: The State of North Dakota is not only next-door neighbor to the State of Minnesota, but its history and development is so closely related to our own that we feel almost as deep an interest in her affairs and in her public men and in the progress of her people as if she were a part of our own Commonwealth.

When Minnesota was created a Territory, in 1849, its western boundary extended to the Missouri River and the White Earth River, so that the greater part of North Dakota was a part of Minnesota Territory from 1849 until the latter became a State, in 1858, with its western boundary fixed along the Red River of the North.

We are also reminded of the fact that when the great Territory of Dakota made its protracted fight for admission to the Union as two States it found a champion in the distinguished Senator from Minnesota, the great, eloquent Cushman K. Davis, who took the lead and successfully brought that struggle to a close.

The settlement of North Dakota did not really begin until the advent of railroads, in the early seventies, but since then her development has been rapid and continuous, until it is to-day one of the wealthiest and most progressive States in the Union.

The biographer of Senator Johnson tells us that he was born in the State of Wisconsin in 1850, and with his parents moved to Iowa in that year, where they settled at Decorah, in Winneshiek County; that he graduated from the University of Iowa, and taught in a military academy in California two years,

when he returned to Iowa and read law and was admitted to the bar in 1876. He served as a presidential elector in that year, one term in each branch of the Iowa legislature, and practiced law in Decorah until he removed to North Dakota, in 1882, and settled on a homestead in Nelson County. He was elected and served four years as prosecuting attorney of his county, and in 1889 he was elected a member of the constitutional convention which framed the constitution for the new State of North Dakota. He also tells us that he presided over the first Republican state convention held in the State, and in 1890 was elected its Representative in Congress, in which capacity he served six years, and during his last term was a member of the Committee on Ways and Means that helped to frame the Dingley tariff law. When he completed his service in Congress he retired to his farm until he was elected United States Senator, in January, 1909, by the unanimous vote of the Republican members of the legislature pursuant to a mandate of the direct primary vote of the people. He died October, 1909, at the very beginning of his senatorial career.

Although I had known Senator JOHNSON by reputation ever since the beginning of his public career, my personal acquaintance with him was very slight. We lived in neighboring States all of our lives, and only a short distance from each other, but for some reason or other I met him only twice before the beginning of the present Congress. I met him once during the campaign of 1896 at a railroad station while we were both waiting for a train which was delayed, and I had a long and interesting conversation with him about the early days and pioneer life. I met him again a few years later on the occasion of a celebration in Chicago, where we both made addresses. Of the many young and ambitious and able men who came to Dakota in territorial days certainly few, if any, had a better

preparation for the work of founding a new Commonwealth than he had. That the foundations of the new State were laid wisely and well is fully evidenced by the unexampled progress that the State has made and the rapidity with which the wilderness has been transformed into a rich and prosperous and progressive Commonwealth.

By the constitution of North Dakota her school lands, embracing one-eighteenth of the whole area, were so carefully guarded that to-day her school fund is estimated at more than $60,000,000, by far the largest per capita common school fund of any State in the Union. It also provides for higher and special institutions of learning, such as state university, school of mines, normal schools, agricultural college, school of forestry, and scientific school. These institutions of learning have so flourished that they now rank among the highest of their class in the whole country.

North Dakota's constitution was also one of the first proposed by a new State that submitted the question of prohibition of the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors to the people. The fact that this provision was overwhelmingly adopted by a popular vote showed that public sentiment on this question in the new State was far in advance of the rest of the country, and it is probably due to this fact that for more than twenty years prohibition in North Dakota has not only prohibited, but has proven a success and a blessing to its people in every way.

I speak of these things because I regard the share that Senator JOHNSON bore in framing the constitution and laws of the new State and in the formation of the high and lofty ideals and public sentiment upon which all law must rest as his most important service to the world and to humanity.

He was honest and frank in all his ways, and the people had unbounded confidence in him. To his able advocacy of the

cause of protection and sound money was largely due the fact that his State remained firmly in the Republican column during the exciting campaigns of 1894 and 1896. He was always conspicuous for his earnest and courageous advocacy of what he believed to be the right, and the people trusted him implicitly.

Senator JOHNSON came from good, old Norwegian stock, his father, Nelson Johnson (Kaasa), being born in Hitterdahl, Upper Thelemarken, and his mother in Voss Norway, from whence they emigrated and settled in Muskego, Wis., in 1839. It will be seen, therefore, that his parents were among the earliest Norwegian immigrants. Speaking of Norwegian immigration, which has played such an important part in the development of North Dakota, it may be interesting to recall the fact that the Norwegians made no attempt at colonization or organized immigration to this country during the colonial period, although it is known that quite a few immigrants had settled here prior to the Revolution and that some of them fought in that war.

Paul Jones, for instance, recruited his ship, the *Ranger*, in Mandal, a seaport in southern Norway, and one of the young men he engaged was Thomas Johnson, who was his pilot and who helped him lash the *Bon Homme Richard* to the *Serapis*, and to hoist the first American flag that was ever saluted by the ships of a foreign power. This brave sailor and hero of many battles came with Jones to America and died in the United States Naval Hospital in 1851, at the age of 93. (See v. 28, New England Historical and Genealogical Register, p. 17.)

The first organized party of Norwegian immigrants came in the sloop *Restauration*, and were 62 in number, and settled in Kendall, Orleans County, N. Y. Another party came a few years later and settled in Illinois, and still another in 1836 and settled in Wisconsin. The Muskego settlement where Johnson, senior, settled in 1839 was, therefore, among the earliest Nor

wegian settlements in the Northwest. That it required great courage and fortitude to penetrate the wilderness and brave the privations of pioneer life and endure the hardships incident thereto is not fully appreciated in these days, when railroads precede the pioneer. That the parents of Senator JOHNSON could give him, under the primitive conditions and circumstances of these early days, the excellent education that he received, showed that they were not only brave and courageous, but endowed with that energy and self-sacrificing spirit so characteristic of the early pioneers everywhere.

The career of Senator JOHNSON was a most honorable one, and he leaves to posterity the best legacy that any man can leave—an honored and honorable name. The influence of his work and of his good example as an upright man and a sincere Christian will increase as time rolls on. It may be that some will not concede him greatness in the usual sense of that word, but he was a man of the people, and his influence for good was great.

He who through the channels of the state
Conveys the people's wish is great.
His name is pure,
His fame is free.

## Address of Mr. Gronna, of North Dakota

Mr. Speaker: We are met here to-day to do honor to the memory of a late Senator from my State, and a former Member of the House, Martin N. Johnson, late United States Senator from North Dakota.

Martin N. Johnson was born in Racine County, Wis., March 3, 1850. The same year his parents moved to Iowa, settling on a farm near Decorah. Here the future Senator spent his childhood and boyhood days, receiving, like so many of our noted men, his early training on a farm and learning there the need of earnest effort and the honor residing in honest toil.

His early education was received in the public schools in the vicinity. Later he attended the Upper Iowa University for a while, and then entered the State University of Iowa, from which institution he graduated in 1873 with the A. B. degree. He now accepted a position as instructor at the California Military Academy, at Oakland, Cal., where he remained two years. He again became a student at his alma mater, this time in the law department. He graduated in 1876 and was admitted to the bar the same year.

He now engaged in the practice of law in his home town, Decorah, where he followed his practice for six years. He early became interested in politics and the questions of government. In 1875 he was elected a member of the house of representatives of the Iowa legislature, and in 1877 he was elected a state senator. In 1876 he was elected a presidential elector on the Republican ticket and cast his vote for Hayes.

In 1879 he was married to Miss Stella White, and to her aid and inspiration was due in a large measure the success which he achieved in life.

In 1882 Mr. JOHNSON moved to what was then the Territory of Dakota and entered a homestead near Petersburg, Nelson County, where he continued to reside until his death. In 1886 he was elected state's attorney for Nelson County, and was reelected in 1888.

In 1889 the Territory of Dakota, which had been knocking at the doors of Congress for a number of years, was admitted as two States, North and South Dakota. Realizing his fitness, his neighbors elected Mr. JOHNSON a member of the constitutional convention called to frame a constitution for that part of the Territory that was to become the State of North Dakota. He took an active part in the deliberations of the convention, and was influential in shaping the organic law of the new State.

He was a candidate for election as one of the first United States Senators from the State, but although he was nominated in the Republican caucus, he was defeated by a combination of Republicans and Democrats. At the same session of the legislature occurred the memorable lottery fight. Mr. JOHNSON was not a member of the legislature, but the people of his county met in mass meeting and selected him to go to the capital of the State and oppose the attempt to sell the honor of the State.

In the fall of 1890 Mr. JOHNSON was elected a Member of Congress, and was reelected in 1892, 1894, and 1896. During the latter years of his service in the House he was a member of the Ways and Means Committee, and as such had a hand in the shaping of the Dingley tariff law.

In 1898 he declined a renomination for the House, and announced his intention of being a candidate for United States Senator before the next legislature. He was undoubtedly the

strongest candidate, but he was defeated by a combination among the followers of the other candidates. Accepting his defeat with his usual cheerfulness, he retired to his farm, where he spent the next few years.

In 1906 he again became active in state politics, and his name was presented to the Republican state convention as candidate for governor. He failed of nomination, however. In 1908 he was for the third time candidate for United States Senator, under a state-wide primary law providing for an expression by the people of their choice for Senator. He received the popular vote, and in January, 1909, he was elected by the legislature. He took his seat in the Senate March 4, 1909, and served through the extra session.

He died during the recess, October 21, 1909, at Fargo, N. Dak., where he had gone for a minor operation for throat trouble. He is survived by his wodow, one son, and three daughters.

It is difficult to form a true estimate of a man's work until some years have passed since he ceased from his efforts. That part of his work which is apt to impress us most in a retrospect is that which he was engaged in last, and our view of his last work is apt to influence our judgment on his former work. Further, if a man is personally known to us, we will remember his personality more than his work, and this will influence our judgment.

And, finally, it sometimes takes years before it is possible to see what the results will be of anyone's efforts, and things that we approve of may be condemned by the seasoned judgment of history. A true estimate of any man's work can be formed only when the years have mellowed our prejudices and events have shown the result of his efforts.

It is not for us to pass on the work of the late Senator JOHNSON; we can only say what his efforts were and what his ideals

were. I did not always agree with him. I believed that he sometimes advocated wrong policies and that he at times was mistaken in his judgment of men and measures, but we can not all agree; we should not be human if we could. There is no man whose judgment is not fallible, and sometimes even history hesitates to judge men and policies. But though men might question his judgment and disagree with him as to measures, his integrity and honesty of purpose was never impeached. Even in the fiercest campaigns the charge was never made that he had ever, in the slightest degree, been influenced in his actions by unworthy motives.

As a legislator he was faithful, diligent, and enthusiastic. His ideals were high and his stand was always for civic honesty and political righteousness. Of the constitutional convention that framed the constitution of the State of North Dakota he was one of the leading members. He was especially active in securing the adoption of a provision prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the new State, thus adding another star to the galaxy of States that had had the courage of their highest ideals in dealing with this question. He did effective work in defeating the attempt of the Louisiana Lottery Company to secure a foothold in the State. During his service in Congress he was instrumental in securing the passage of the anticanteen measure and prohibiting the sale of liquor in the Capitol and on the Capitol grounds.

His service in the Senate was too short to allow of any estimate as to what he might have accomplished if his life had been spared, but it was long enough to convince all with whom he came into contact of his faithful industry and his loftiness of purpose.

As a speaker he was clear and forceful, leaving no doubt in the hearer's mind that he had given the matter under discus-

sion careful consideration and had come to a definite conclusion in regard to it, and that he would not forsake his conviction unless it was proved to his satisfaction that he was in the wrong.

As a politician he might be said to be one of the highest type. He had unbounded faith in the correctness of the popular judgment, and was never afraid to submit his actions and conclusions to the public for its approval. He was never defeated in any popular election, and always maintained, when defeated in his various attempts to secure election as United States Senator, that if the people had an opportunity to express their preference, he would be sure of election. Even though it might appear at times that his constituents did not approve of his attitude on certain questions, he had supreme confidence that the sober second thought of the people would vindicate him and the policies for which he stood. His great ambition was to become a member of the United States Senate, and it is a noble ambition when it arises from a desire to serve the people. His splendid optimism was perhaps his greatest political asset. He accepted victory and defeat with equal equanimity, and never sulked in his tent, but was always willing to accept the result, whatever it might be, and bury personal differences in consideration of the welfare of the party.

His personal character was above reproach. Even in the heat of strenuous campaigns there was never any aspersions cast tending to reflect on his character or integrity. His family life was most beautiful and was not marred by a single shadow.

He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and not only took an active part in all church affairs, but also showed his faith in his life and the work that he did. He had an abiding faith in the triumph of goodness, and believed not so much in the punishment of evil as in its final elimination from human

lives and the realization of the highest and noblest destiny both of the individual and the human race. He believed that—

Religion is a necessary, an indispensable element in any great human character.

And held that—

Dim as the borrowed beams of moon and stars
To lonely, weary, wandering travelers,
Is reason to the soul; and as on high
Those rolling fires discover but the sky,
Not light us here; so reason's glimmering ray
Was lent, not to assure our doubtful way,
But guide us upward to a better day.
And as those mighty tapers disappear
When day's bright lord ascends the hemisphere,
So pale grows reason at religion's sight;
So dies, and so dissolves in supernatural light.

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